

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04

SIL-01 /038 W

----- 120007

R 211429Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7117

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 13635

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: STUDENT STRIKE GROWS

REF: ADDIS ABABA 13516

1. REPORTEDLY, MANY TEACHERS AND SECONDARY STUDENTS IN ADDIS ABABA REMAIN OUT ON STRIKE (SEE REFTEL). REPORTS REACHING US NOW INDICATE THAT JUNIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS ARE JOINING STRIKE. ALLEGED REASON FOR THESE STUDENTS' ACTION IS FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO DEMANDS OF SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS. THESE DEMANDS, IN ADDITION TO THOSE LISTED REFTEL, REPORTEDLY INCLUDE: RELEASE OF DETAINED ZEMATCHOCH, (SAID TO NUMBER LESS THAN 250); RELEASE OF OTHER STUDENTS UNDER DETENTION, (SAID TO BE FEW IN NUMBER); AND COMPENSATION TO FAMILIES OF ZEMATCH KILLED WHILE ON GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

2. ARMED POLICE HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN USED TO BREAK UP GROUPS OF STUDENTS DEMONSTRATING OUTSIDE SOME ADDIS SCHOOLS BUT WITHOUT HAVING TO RESORT TO FORCE. GOVERNMENT ISSUED STATEMENTS ON NOVEMBER 19 AND 21 ALONG SAME LINES AS PREVIOUS STATEMENT
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MENTIONED REFTEL.

3. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION AS TO EVOLUTION OF STRIKE IN PROVINCES.

COMMENT: GOVERNMENT REACTION TO STUDENT/TEACHER STRIKE HAS BEEN FAR MORE RESTRAINED THAN WHEN CELU LEADERS ATTEMPTED TO STRIKE. IN THE CASE OF THE LABORERS, EMPLOYEES WERE REQUIRED TO COMPILE

LISTS OF ANY WORKERS WHO FAILED TO SHOW UP FOR WORK AND THESE STRIKERS WERE IMMEDIATELY ROUNDED UP BY SOLDIERS. IF STRIKE SPREADS, HOWEVER, DIRG MAY FEEL COMPELLED TO RESORT TO STRONGER MEASURES.
HUMMEL

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